

Approved For Release 2000/05/24 : CIA-RDP75-001

UNITED PRESS
INTERNATIONAL

MAR 26 1964

UPI-55

(GUNS)

WASHINGTON--A LOS ANGELES GUN DEALER ADMITTED TO A SENATE INVESTIGATING SUBCOMMITTEE TODAY THAT HE HAD IMPORTED GUNS--INCLUDING 24 MACHINE GUNS--FROM SINGAPORE AFTER FIRST DECLINING TO DO SO ON GROUNDS HE MIGHT INCRIMINATE HIMSELF.

THE ADMISSION WAS MADE BY MAYWOOD HENRY HUNTER, WHO DID BUSINESS IN CALIFORNIA AS HY HUNTER, INC., DURING QUESTIONING BY SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THOMAS J. DODD, D-CONN.

HUNTER ALSO HINTED AT A MYSTERIOUS CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND THE AMERICAN WEAPONS CORP., THE PARENT FIRM OF HY HUNTER, INC.

"I'M NOT SURE THAT THIS MIGHT NOT BE A SECRET," HUNTER SAID WHEN SEN. KENNETH E. KEATING, R-N.Y., EXPRESSED WONDER HOW THE GUN DEALER HAS "ACQUIRED THIS CIA CORPORATION."

BOTH DODD AND KEATING SUGGESTED THE COMMITTEE MIGHT HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO EXPLORE THE CIA CONNECTION WITH THE FIRM DEALING IN THE RETAILING AND WHOLESALING OF FIREARMS.

HUNTER, WHO SAID HIS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS NOW IS IN HAMBURG, GERMANY, TOLD THE COMMITTEE HE HAD BOUGHT GUNS FROM THE SINGAPORE POLICE DEPARTMENT AFTER FIRST DECLINING TO DISCUSS THE TRANSACTION BECAUSE OF CHARGES FILED AGAINST HIM IN PORTLAND, ORE.

HUNTER WAS ACCUSED OF SHIPPING GUNS VALUED AT \$69,000 AND INCLUDING THE MACHINE GUNS INTO THE COUNTRY AS STEEL SCRAP. HE TOLD THE COMMITTEE, HOWEVER, THAT THE 500 GUNS HAD BEEN BROUGHT IN UNDER LICENSE AND LABELED AS SCRAP ONLY TO GET A LOWER SHIPPING RATE.

HE WAS "GREATLY SHOCKED," HUNTER SAID, TO LEARN THAT 24 WEAPONS LISTED AS BERETTA CARBINES HAD TURNED OUT TO BE BERETTA MACHINE GUNS.

HUNTER TESTIFIED THAT THE GUNS, WHICH DODD SAID CUSTOMS OFFICIALS HAD VALUED AT \$69,000, HAD COST HIM \$1,250 AND THAT HE HAD SOLD THEM TO GALAXY ENTERPRISES, INC., AN OREGON FIRM, FOR \$3,250.

3/26--MJ117AES

COPYRIGHT